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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	PAUL AKERS)	
Serial No.:	10/754,413)	Attorneys' Ref. P214498
Filing Date:	1/9/2004)	Art Unit: 3727
Title:	COVER PIECE AND METHOD FOR COFFEE CUP LIDS)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Preliminary Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted herewith to amend the present application prior to substantive examination.

It is believed that no fee or charge is due at this time to maintain the application in full force and effect. However, if any such fee or charge is due, please charge this to Deposit Account No. 502099.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted herewith to amend the application as filed on January 9, 2004. By this amendment, the applicant has amended independent claims 1, 11, 17, and 18.

In the final Office Action mailed on October 31, 2003, in connection with parent application Serial No. 10/157,383, the Examiner rejected the claims in the parent '383 application under 35 USC §§ 103(a) and 102(b) on the basis of U.S. Patent No. 3,312,368 to Reynolds (hereinafter Reynolds), alone and in combination with other